

The Burston Rebellion

-Thomas George Higdon

In 1911 two teachers, headmistress Annie (Kitty) Higdon and her husband Tom as assistant teacher (both Christian Socialists), joined the community of the small village of Burston, situated just north of the market town on Diss on the Norfolk / Suffolk border. It wasn't too long before the Higdons, whilst trying their hardest to improve the conditions both of the pupils of their school and the children's parents (who were mostly agricultural labourers), came into serious conflict with the long-established hegemony of the landowning and ecclesiastic classes of the district that formed the board of school managers. The Higdons were dismissed from their posts on 1 April 1914, but this injustice so enraged virtually all of the pupils at the school that they immediately went on strike in support of their much loved and respected teachers, led by 13-year-old Violet Potter. (Summary by StevenC)

Running Time: 03:45:28 Read by: StevenC

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